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E and I dined tonight with the Profumos. He is Secretary for War, and his charming wife is one of the leading actresses in England. We arrived at 8:15, in order, as is customary here, to be well in advance of the Queen Mother's coming at 8:30. Their house is about five minutes from us in Regents Park. It is beautiful, a John Nash creation with a delectable little garden, out of which was sprouting a May tree with bright pink blooms. Profumo owned this before his marriage. Their joint collections of pictures and objects of many kinds are enviable. The"QueenMum'' has always been considered one of the most attractive women in England. She is certainly one of the best natured, a real Scot. She had with her a Lady-in-Waiting, and the other guests included Eliza and John Hope, Lord and Lady Willoughby de Broke, Ted Heath, and Sir Eric Milville (an old India hand). Rachel de Broke has a salty personality. She is a good friend of the O'Callaghans. We sat late, though the Queen Mother, as is said to be usual, showed no disposition to go home. I found she was a fellow admirer of Squire Osbaldaston's autobiography. Her interest in racing is keen. For the first time in her life, she had three winners on one day last week. Her brother, David Bowes-Lyon, is one of the best liked men in England.

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Nothing could be more attractive than the atmosphere surrounding the Profumos. Eliza was questioned a bit about her £200,000 suit against her father, W. Somerset Maugham, in connection with his recent picture sale. She refused, quite naturally, to be drawn out on the subject, which has aroused a great amount of gossip here.

The twist seems to have intrigued everybody, and by the time we left last night, everyone was practicing it. I went to bed about two o'clock, for in the aftermath of reading about the Duchess of Dino, I took up again one of my favorite books, Duff Cooper's Life of Talleyrand.

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